

An ADDITION TO THE CASE of the Paper-sellers Humbly offered to this Present PARLIAMENT Against the PAPER-BILL.



Hereas the Paper-sellers of *London* being very sensible that the Bill offered to this honourable House by the New Company of White-Paper-makers would not answer the Name and pretended Design of it, but on the contrary be very destructive to the general Trade of Paper-making, and the Ruine of many hundreds of Families now maintained by the Making, Selling and Working of all sorts of Paper, did therefore Petition, as the Antient Paper-makers had before done, that the said Bill might not pass, and in a true state of the Case and Circumstances of Paper-making, have, as they humbly conceive, made it appear that the said Bill was contrived for sinister ends and purposes of Private Men, and to carry on a Monopoly against the Common and Statute Laws of this Realm, and expressly against a Statute, 21. *Jac. 1. cap. 3.* against Monopolies and Dispensations with Penal Laws, and that the same doth no way tend to any publick Good, but would be very grievous to many of their Majesties Subjects, which the said New Company being not able to give a sufficient Answer to, by several untrue and reflecting Papers, and other disingenuous Practices have endeavoured to insinuate,

That they the said Paper-sellers have combined with divers Persons to discourage and oppose the increasing of White Writing and Printing Paper in this Kingdom: It is therefore humbly offered.

That the said Paper-sellers are, and will be ready when they shall have leave to be heard by their Council, to make it appear as they now humbly aver; that they have not in any of their Proceedings discouraged, and do not desire to obstruct the making of greater quantities of White-Writing and Printing Paper in *England*, which is evident, in that the said Paper-sellers or the Antient Paper-makers, though they have suffered for fifteen Years past very much by the Patentees, interloping into their Trade and Livelihoods, have not endeavoured as they might have done to stop or hinder the said Patentees in their Prosecuting to make any sort of White or Brown Paper, as they do at this present day, though they endeavour to conceal that they make Brown Paper; of all which sorts the said Paper-sellers have from time to time bought of them, and frequently advised and instructed them what sorts of Paper were best for the Markets.

That the said Paper-sellers can make it appear the late Patents and Grant for a Corporation to Monopolize the sole making of White-Writing and Printing Paper were not only against Law, but have greatly hindered the making of that Manufacture in *England*, the Antient Paper-makers having been thereby threatened and over-awed from making thereof.

The said Paper-sellers do also most humbly offer that there is a considerable number of the Antient Paper-makers now working in Mills very proper for making of Writing and Printing Paper, and have Workmen who by their Experience well know the best way of sorting white Rags to make fine Writing and Printing Paper, and by reason of the present hindrances from abroad, all the Artists in *England* are few enough to make a sufficient supply of Paper for the necessary use of this Kingdom.

And whereas the said Companies last Paper doth insinuate that by their Bill is reserved to the Antient Paper-makers the freedom of making any sort of Paper of the value by them formerly made, the same is untrue, for that it will, if it should pass, confine them not to make any White-Writing or Printing Paper above the value of four Shillings per Ream, when as they have made many sorts of a much greater value; besides if the said New Company were as they have pretended to be the sole Inventors and Artists of making such sorts, they need not desire to confine others at all.

There are many more Contradictions and false Insinuations contained in the said New Company's Papers, which the said Paper-sellers to avoid Prolivity forbear to take notice of.

The whole considered, it appears unnecessary both in respect of the skillfulness of the Ancient Paper-makers in the said Manufacture, and that they want no Stock nor Mills to manage the same, and that this Kingdom will be supplied better by allowing a free and open Trade to all Persons that are brought up to, or understand, the making of all sorts of Paper, and the New Companies Bill being in the opinion of learned Council, to confirm a notorious Monopoly, and as such will be attended with destructive and mischievous consequences to the Public, the said Paper-sellers most Humbly pray the said Bill may not pass into an Act.

This is Printed upon Paper (without the Letter W.) made in England, and not by the New Company nor Mr. Watkins which the said Company have unadvisedly Challenged the Paper-sellers to produce.